

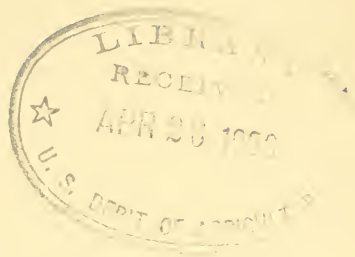
## **Historic, Archive Document**

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62,23

1920



***E. G. LEWIS***  
***SEED COMPANY***  
**MEDIA ILLINOIS**

PURE  
BRED  
SEED  
CORN

## OUR STANDARD

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We have set our stakes ahead.

We have placed our aims high.

We are looking forward, not backward.

We are going up the ladder and not down.

We are pushing ahead with the same standard with which we started. Quality First is our Standard. "Do unto others as you would that others do unto you," has been our guide.

Although Illinois did not have a pure seed law until July 1, 1919, we have in past years sold to our customers the quality of seeds we use ourselves. Listen! dear friends, we are sorry to say this, but it is true. Thousands of innocent farmers have foul weeds on their farms to-day. Why? Because some unscrupulous seedman has lost sight of his moral duty. Has our farmer saved? No! These foul weeds injure not only the innocent farmer but generations who live after him.

We have built our business on a rock foundation. We have spent thousands of dollars through our Agronomy Department to protect our farming friends.

We are prepared to test all field seeds for purity and germination. We are co-operating with the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the investigation of corn root rot disease. We conducted one plot in co-operation with them this year.

We have made mistakes, but where we find a mistake, we are putting in a solid brick.

With our branch office at Monmouth, Illinois, and the equipment we have at Media, we believe the foundation is laid for a Seed business which will be second to none.

With thanks to all our customers of the past, and with a solicitation for the business of one and all in the future, I am

Sincerely yours,

E. G. LEWIS

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# E. G. LEWIS SEED CO.

## MEDIA, ILLINOIS

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### WHERE WE ARE LOCATED

Media, Henderson County, is located in the Mississippi Valley, twelve (12) miles from the river, and two hundred (200) miles southwest of Chicago, right in the heart of the corn belt, on double tracks of the Santa Fe, between Chicago and Kansas City, seventeen (17) miles from Burlington, Iowa, and the same distance from Monmouth, Illinois.

Monmouth, Warren County, where our retail store and branch office is located, has the double track of the C. B. & Q., M. & St. L. (Iowa Central), and R. I. Southern.

Our location is unexcelled.

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*Save by buying the very best.*

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# ARE YOU AND I GOING UP & DOWN THE LADDER ?

BETTER SEEDS  
COST MORE,  
DON'T YOU  
THINK THEY  
ARE WORTH  
MORE?

DO YOU SAVE  
MONEY WHEN  
YOU BUY  
CHEAP,  
INFERIOR  
SEEDS?  
THINK!  
THEN  
ANSWER  
FOR  
YOUR-  
SELF.



A' Better World  
Better Communities  
Better Homes  
Higher Yields  
Better Soils  
Better Seeds  
Quality  
Work

Determination

Desire for Better  
Things

FIRST STEP UP

FIRST STEP DOWN

Loss of Ambition

Thinking of Self Alone

Inferior, Adulterated  
Poor Quality Seeds

Poor Soils

Low Yields

Run-down Homes

No Working for Com-  
mon Good

Selfishness of Land-  
lord or Tenant

Carelessness

## ISN'T THE BEST OF ANYTHING THE CHEAPEST?

*Good seed builds your farm up; poor seed runs your farm down.*





*Corn from rows grown side by side. Note difference in yield.*

You want more bushels of good, sound corn from every acre you farm, don't you?

You want yield rather than show type. That is what our corn is bred to do. It may be that it is possible to have a show type and get the best yield, but so far no one seems to have been able to accomplish this.

We have been testing ears of corn by the ear-to-row method for several years. We keep a very accurate record of this kind of ears planted and the yield of dry corn produced, then select a small per cent of the high yielders, from each test plot, to plant in a breeding plot the next year. Care is taken to detassel half of each breeding plot row in such a manner as to insure having some cross-bred seed from each row. After harvest, the corn from ears showing the highest average yield over the two-year period, is selected to be planted in small multiplying plots to secure sufficient seed from which to grow our regular seed corn.

### GETTING BETTER CORN BY TEST

Besides this work, by which we are getting high yield strains by test instead of by guess, we are applying all the best methods of testing the foundation seed from which our seed corn is grown.

This year we had one plot run in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the purpose of studying the corn root rot. Methods to secure disease-free seed are being worked out by the office of Cereal Investigation. We have been trying some of these methods and believe that their work will be of immense value to corn growers.

*When you sow foul seed, you can expect to harvest foul seed.*



From our data, taken from ear-to-row tests, extending over several years, we are coming more and more to believe that the important thing in securing seed corn is to get seed from a high-yielding strain.

High-yielding by test rather than by guess or by appearance.



LINCOLN ONCE SAID: "EVERY BLADE OF GRASS IS A STUDY AND, TO PRODUCE TWO WHERE THERE WAS BUT ONE, IS BOTH A PROFIT AND A PLEASURE."

### THOSE WHO USE LEWIS' SEED CORN SAY:

"Your corn made ten bushels per acre more than my own."

"My corn averages 68 bushels and 10 pounds per acre over the scale, which is high for this locality."

"Seed Corn bought from you is a good kind and a good yielder, making over seventy bushels per acre. Will want more in the spring."

"The seed I have bought from you each year for five years has been fully up to expectations."

We have the originals of the above letters on file in our office.

**BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.** Not genuine unless in Lewis' Bags or Crates.

Read what twenty-four neighbors say on page 29.

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*Good Seeds make your farm worth more.*

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*B. G. Wood, of U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Assistant Pathologist and our Agronomist, planting a plot to study effects of root rot on corn.*

Root rot of corn, sometimes called the Fusarium disease of corn, is causing great losses to corn belt farmers. So far the matter of producing disease-free seed is in the experimental stage and, while we are working on the problem, as yet we have no results to offer.

Our method of selecting seed in line with methods recommended by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Mr. J. R. Holbert, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, recommends picking seed corn early from good, sound stalks and taking care to get the ears having good, sound shanks. We have been doing this for years and find, by test and inspection, that our seed is more free from this disease than most strains of corn.

## IF WE ALL QUIT

The farmer, the miner, the grocer, the druggist, the milkman, the manufacturer, the banker—*EVERYBODY*.

What's fair for one is fair for all.

What happens? Nothing to eat, nothing to wear, nowhere to go, and no way of going.

Strikes undertaken at this critical time," says President Wilson, "are certain to make matters worse, not better."

*We don't want to Russianize America!*

*You'll get exactly what you order or your money back.*



*Analyzing Seeds*

## PURITY AND GERMINATION TESTS

All of our seeds are sent out bearing labels showing the purity test.

We can furnish germination test if wanted.

We have the facilities for doing this work in our Agronomy Department.

This work is so important that we are spending a great deal of time and money to make it as good as possible.

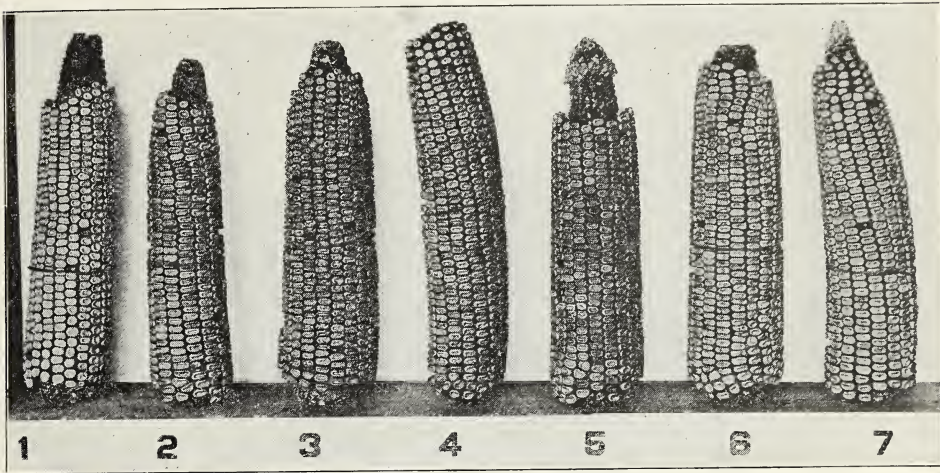
Purity test on every bag.

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*Hundreds buy their seeds early and have it shipped when they wish.*

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These ears have a record behind them.

The average farmer cannot afford to spend his time breeding corn. We have customers who buy their seed every year, and never attempt to save their own seed. "I buy all my seed because it pays me," says one. "I buy all my seed because you are doing the real work," says another.

Seed corn is your cheapest seed.

Show corn often disappoints when it comes to yield.

Note what the Nebraska Experiment Station has to say in their bulletin No. 163 regarding the merits of smooth and rough corn, in speaking of rather smooth, slender, hard, solid ears with relatively shallow grains: "For those who do not favor this type of ear, it may be said that it is likely to yield fully as much grain to the acre as the larger, rougher types, even in years when both give equally good germination."

*If our seeds don't please you, tell us.*



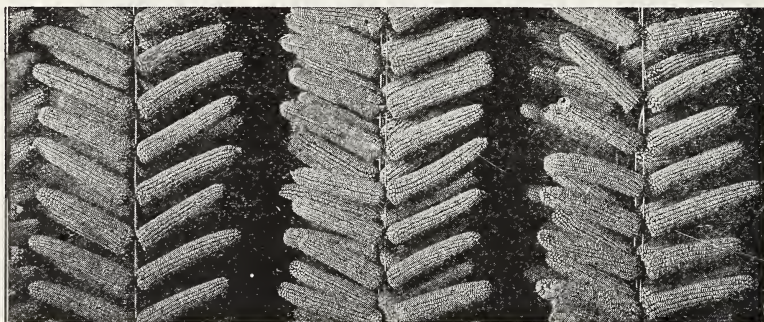
*A Crew Sack Picking Our Corn*

**ALL MEN AGREE THAT SEED CORN WHICH HAS BEEN "SACK PICKED" AND "HUNG" IS THE BEST.**

Replies from 119 County Agents indicate that 92.1% favored early field selection. Method of storing: 97.6% favored seed being hung or dried on racks; 70% favored hung seed; only 27% favored rack dried.

Why do we have such a large trade within driving distance of our Seed House? There is a reason.

**HANGING 9,000 BUSHELS OF SEED CORN**

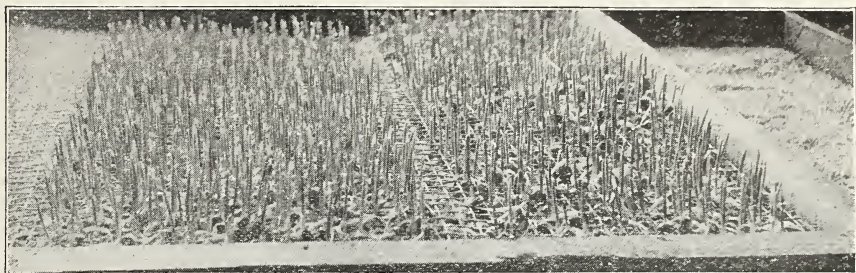


*Here's How Our Seed is Stored*

This is no little task, but we did it. Experiments teach us there is no better way to care for seed corn than by going thru the fields with a sack, taking row by row, selecting the earliest maturing ears, and then hanging them so that scarcely one ear touches another.

*Your money's worth or your money back*





*A Photograph of an Experiment Performed in Our Agronomy Department During Some Research Work into Germination Testing.*

Our Seed Corn is worth double what you pay us. It's not an expense but an investment to you. Place your order early and save disappointment.

The best seed corn costs very little.

## SEED CORN YOUR CHEAPEST SEED

\$5.90 buys 1 bushel, plants 7 acres, produces at least 350 bushels—\$350.00.

\$5.90 buys 3 bushels of wheat, sows 2 acres, produces at most 80 bushels—\$180.00.

\$5.90 buys 8 bushels of oats, sows 3 acres, produces at most 180 bushels—\$126.00.

*We leave you to figure the profit in favor of seed corn.*

Let us ship our seed to you, or book you for later shipment. Test the seed 15 days, and if not satisfied, return at our expense. If you are ordering from others send us an order and if our seed does not suit you, return at our expense.

We have customers who buy all their seed from us each year, because it pays them.

We will forfeit \$1,000.00 to any man who can truly prove we fill orders from a crib after our supply is gone.

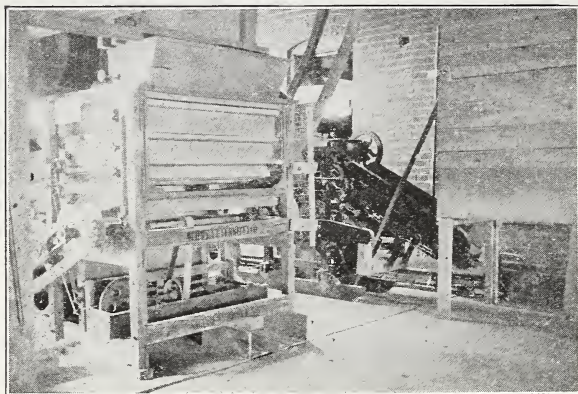
*There's a feeling of justice in the mind of every citizen if he's built right.*



If this Catalog were to be written with two words, they would be

## QUALITY FIRST

Quality lives in your mind long after the price is forgotten.



*Our Sheller and Corn Grading Machine*

Why do 95 per cent of all those who visit us become our customers?

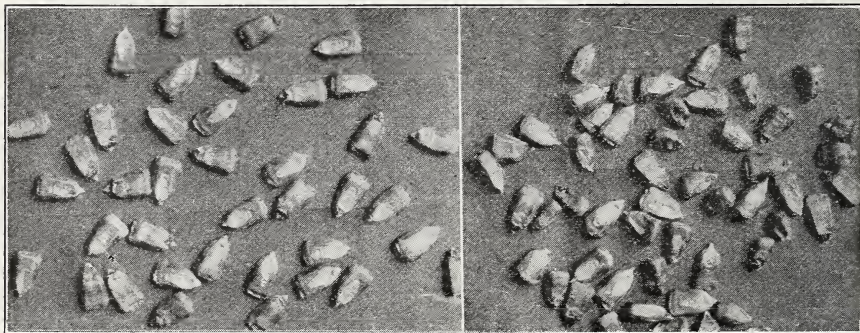
ONE GRADE TO ALL.

We treat all alike.

Is there any good reason why one man should have any more for his money than any other? We say NO!

Our shelled and graded corn and our ear corn are the same quality. Both are from the same fields; from the same breeding stock and are picked and handled in the same way until finally sorted. Then part is placed in crates to be sold as ear corn and part is carefully nubbled and tipped and then carefully graded on an up-to-date Corn Grading machine.

The graded corn comes to you in new Bemis "A" bags and is ready for your planter. It is well graded and you will have no trouble in getting an accurate stand of corn.



GRADED

*Showing the Advantage of Using Graded Seed*

UNGRADED

*Order early and be sure of getting your seed.*



## GET THE RIGHT IDEA OF US

We would not have you believe we have reached perfection but we are striving to produce better seeds. Don't think that we are the meanest people on earth if you find a white grain of corn in Reid's, or a yellow grain in the white. No living man can control the birds that fly, the winds that blow; we cannot cover our fields to keep out foreign pollen.

We do not believe in sowing foul seed but, remember, we can not absolutely swear there is not a foul weed in our clover. For example, a certain County Agent came to us to buy clover seed. We told him it was almost entirely free from weeds but that he might find a dock seed or that he might not. He found three sour dock seeds after spending two hours examining 115 bushels of seed. He bought the seed and later came back and purchased 200 bushels. We sell our customers just the kind of seed we would sow for ourselves. Can you ask for more?

## PURITY OF OUR SEED

We keep our seed as pure as it is within any human's power. We live right on the farm where a seed corn man should live. Raise all we can ourselves and furnish the best farmers of our community with the best, highest yielding seed, and in this way we have thousands of acres, when considered as one farm. You can readily see our system is the best.

## HELD OVER 1918 SEED

The reason. The 1918 crop was one of the best we ever put up, and it is a bargain at the following prices. This is the second year we have ever held over any seed corn. We are telling you just what we have.

## GET YOUR ORDER IN

This is a different season from last year. Very few farmers have selected their own seed this year. We have more orders booked Dec. 15th this year than on March 15th last season.

Hundreds buy all their seed from us each year, and think it pays them to do so.

### YIELD GOOD; QUALITY FINE

DEAR SIRS:

The Seed Corn I bought from you last spring was entirely satisfactory. It yielded good and the quality of the seed was fine.

Please quote me your price on three bushels of Red Clover and three bushels of White Blossom Sweet Clover. Also on one bushel of Timothy Seed. All for immediate shipment.

Yours truly,

H. C. PARRISH, Fairmount, Ill.

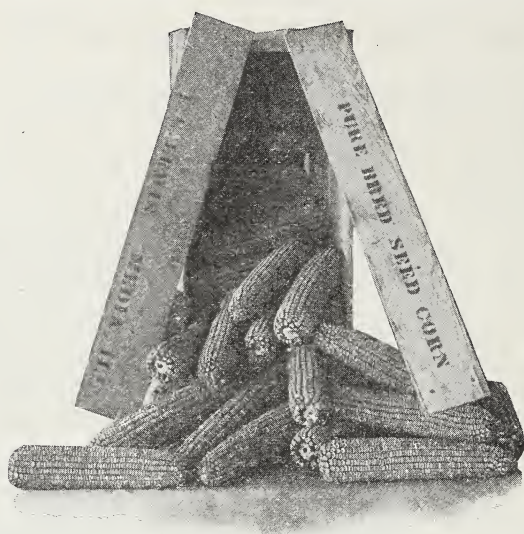
Mr. Parrish order has since been filled and shipped.

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*Which do you want, Seed Corn for yield or show?*

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*A Crate of Reid's*

## REID'S YELLOW DENT

Our Reid's Yellow Dent is of medium rough to smooth type of a light lemon yellow. It is very solid but yet not too solid for stock to eat. It has a small cob and ear, will run from 86 to 90 per cent grain. Kernels are about one-half inch deep. Ears are cylindrical and well filled with kernels at both ends. They will average 18 to 20 rows, kernels set closely, in rows which pair, the two rows of a pair filling very closely. Shuck is small, making it easy to husk. Fodder medium, not too coarse, but stands up well. Matures in 115 days, according to soil, location and season.

This is a very popular corn and is hard to beat. We have many flattering letters in regard to this corn. We have always sold out this variety early.

### GERMINATION 95 TO 100%

Sack picked and hung between September 5 and October 10, 1919; \$5.90 per bushel, graded, bags free.

Sack picked and hung, 1918 crop, \$4.90 per bushel; bags free.

Stock seed, bin stored, 1918 crop, \$4.40 per bushel; bags free.

For Ear Seed, crated, add 50c per bushel.

Order Sheet in back of Catalog.

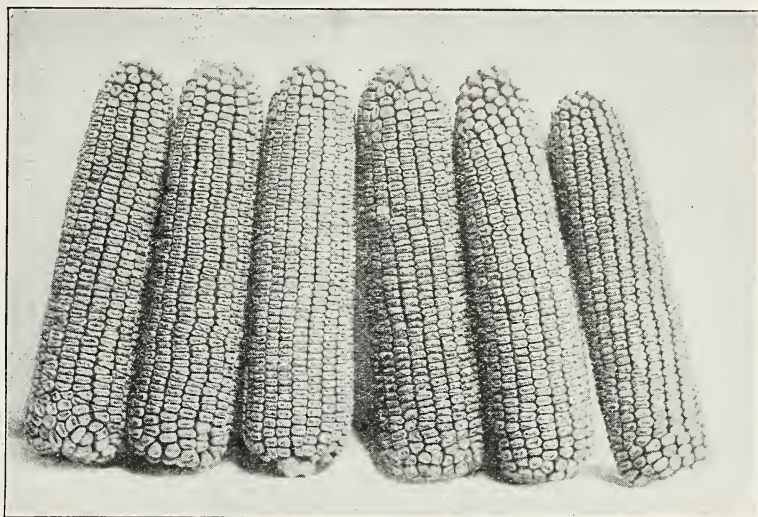
MORE SEED NEXT YEAR; YIELD SEVENTY BUSHELS PER ACRE  
GENTLEMEN:

The Seed Corn which I purchased from you is a good kind and a good yielder. My corn is making over 70 bushels to the acre and I will want more seed from you for next year's planting.

Truly yours,  
A. D. WOODWARD, Roseville, Ill.

*Order what you want and you'll get what you order, or your money back.*





## NINETY DAY YELLOW

Every farmer should plant a little Ninety Day corn for early feeding. The practice of hogging down corn is gaining headway every year and it is a good one. By having a field of early corn it may be husked in this manner. The hogs do better than by dry feeding. It saves from 7 to 9 cents per bushel of husking cost. Then your crop residue, etc., are already scattered and leave the ground richer. We know it pays, not only from our own experiences, but from that of dozens of men who have written us of their results.

Our Ninety Day corn is from 7 to 9 inches long, of a deep golden yellow, with a very small cob, but a deep and slightly rough kernel. By planting in fair season it is ready to turn into by the middle of August to the first of September. Our corn yields right along with the larger varieties.

Then the farmer who wishes to market his corn early finds this a profitable variety to use.

## GERMINATION 95 TO 100%

Sack picked and hung between September 5 and October 10, 1919; \$5.90 per bushel, graded, bags free.

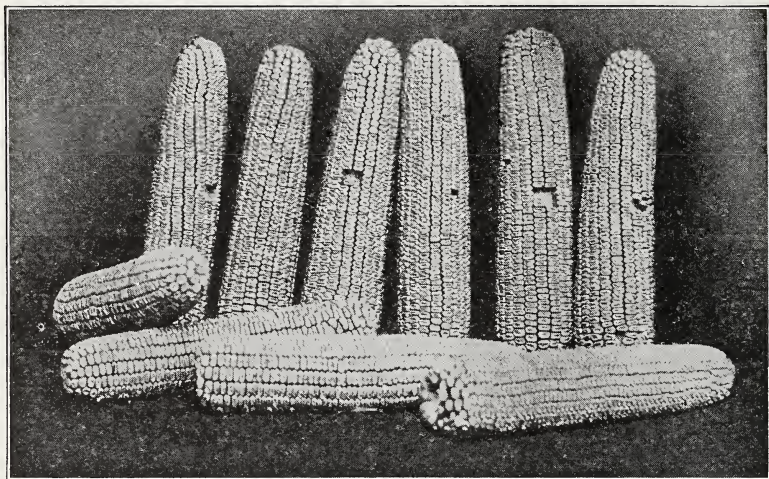
Sack picked and hung, 1918 crop, \$4.90 per bushel; bags free.

Stock seed, bin stored, 1918 crop, \$4.40 per bushel; bags free.

For Ear Seed, crated, add 50c per bushel.

Order Sheet in back of Catalog.

*Save by making all your seeds come in one shipment.*



## JOHNSON COUNTY WHITE

Johnson County White, often called Improved Boone County, was first originated by Mr. James Riley, Boone County, Indiana, in 1876. We secured our start of this variety direct from the originator and have bred it up from that start.

This corn is the leading white corn to-day, both for yield and for show. The kernels are large, broad, deep and medium rough type. Ear, 9 to 11 inches long, 7 to 8 inches in circumference, average about 18 rows of kernels, well filled at tip and butts. Pure chalk white grain. Matures in 115 days according to soil, location and season.

You will notice that the maturity on this is somewhat earlier than is claimed for Johnson County White, the difference is due to our breeding and selection work with this variety. This corn will mature 10 days earlier than many strains of big white corn and white corn has been selling at a premium lately because of the demand for corn meal.

## GERMINATION 95 TO 100%

Sack picked and hung between September 5 and October 10, 1919; \$5.90 per bushel, graded, bags free.

Sack picked and hung, 1918 crop, \$4.90 per bushel; bags free.

Stock seed, bin stored, 1918 crop, \$4.40 per bushel; bags free.

For Ear Seed, crated, add 50c per bushel.

Order Sheet in back of Catalog.

*We stand right square behind our seeds.*





### LEWIS' EARLY WHITE

We believe that there is need for a good early white corn, so we have endeavored to produce one. This corn isn't as even a type nor as good as we want it to be, but it promises to be a dandy early white corn, so we are offering some for sale. We will go on improving it and will be glad to hear of your results with it.

This has rather smooth white kernels of fair depth and good width. The ears are from  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, rather slim, with about 16 rows as an average. Cobs pure white and small.

This corn will mature earlier than any other white corn we have and will yield well.

### GERMINATION 95 TO 100%

Sack picked and hung between September 5 and October 10, 1919; \$5.90 per bushel, graded, bags free.

Sack picked and hung, 1918 crop, \$4.90 per bushel; bags free.

For Ear Seed, crated, add 50c per bushel.

Order Sheet in back of Catalog.

### PAID HIM TO PLANT OUR SEED

DEAR SIR:

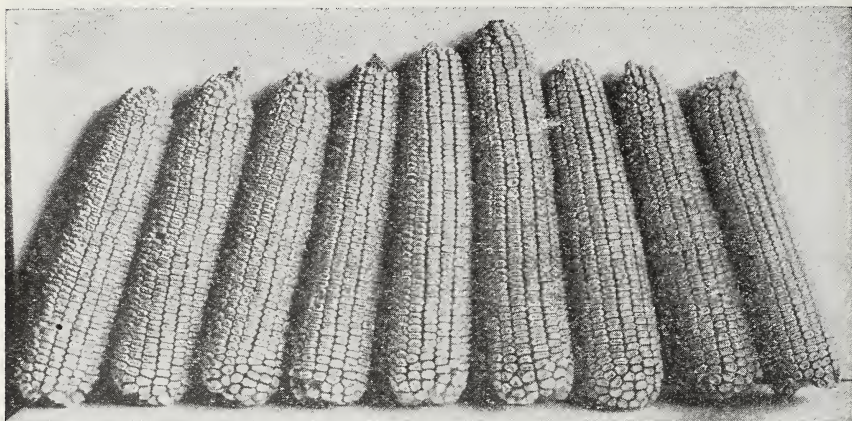
I am well pleased with my seed corn. I bought seed from you in 1918-1919 and I know it paid me to do so.

I have now rented my farm and will recommend your seed to my tenant.

Respectfully,

WM. WATT, Swan Creek, Ill.

*Save money by not buying inferior seeds.*



## IOWA SILVERMINE

Iowa Silvermine was originated in 1890 by J. H. Beagley. It is an excellent white corn with cylindrical ears about 9 inches long, has deep kernels of rather a rough type about 18 to 20 rows. It yields well and has only a moderate sized stalk. The corn is rather a creamy white. This corn is famed for its ability to yield on thin land.

Silvermine matures in about 115 days.

## GERMINATION 95 TO 100%

Sack picked and hung between September 5 and October 10, 1919;  
\$5.90 per bushel, graded, bags free.

Sack picked and hung, 1918 crop, \$4.90 per bushel; bags free.

For Ear Seed, crated, add 50c per bushel.

Order Sheet in back of Catalog.

OCTOBER 1, 1919

DEAR SIRs:

The writer has been for some time contemplating writing you regarding the seed that I bought last spring.

I planted 150 acres to corn, sowed 100 acres to Clover and I sure feel that it was the best \$400 ever invested for seed.

The fact of the business is that I have never missed a crop when the seed was bought from the "Lewis Seed Company."

Mr. Lewis and Mathers Bros. have been my friends and neighbors for eighteen years, and I can say that they are all aggressive, energetic men of extensive business experience. Their honesty is unquestioned and their financial worth enables them to carry out any contracts that they may make.

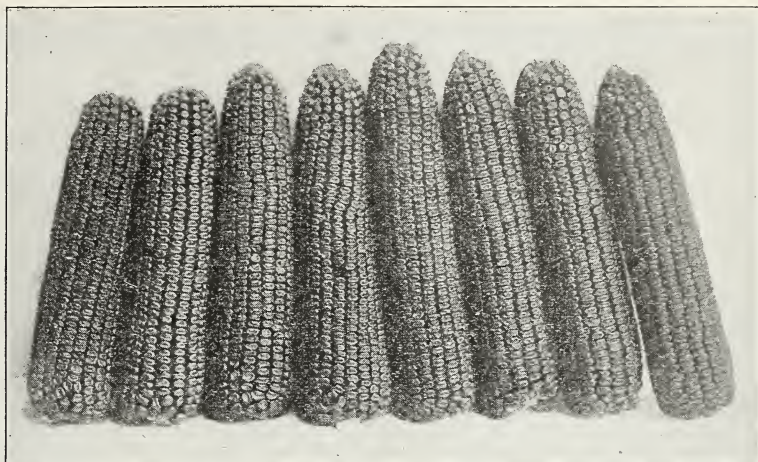
I feel sure that a customer many miles away would receive the same treatment as if he lived as I do, in the same neighborhood.

Respectfully,

ROY W. PARK, Media, Ill.

*Remember our Seeds must please you.*





## OUR RED DENT

This is an early variety which is new, although those men who planted it are enthusiastic over it. 1918 was our first experience with it. This is strictly a 90-day corn and is very early. It is a red color varying from light to dark although this year it runs much more even than it did last year. Has an average of 16 rows and the length of ear runs from 8 to 9 inches, grain of fair depth and nice shape. This is a good yielding early corn. It can be fed earlier than any variety of Dent known to us.

### GERMINATION 95 TO 100%

Sack picked and hung between September 5 and October 10, 1919;  
\$5.90 per bushel, graded, bags free.

Sack picked and hung, 1918 crop, \$4.90 per bushel; bags free.  
For Ear Seed, crated, add 50c per bushel.

Order Sheet in back of Catalog.

### EARLY RED YIELDS SPLENDID CROP

DEAR SIRS:

The Early Red Seed Corn I purchased from your Company produced a splendid crop and I am perfectly satisfied.

Yours truly,

H. L. MARTIN, Little York, Ill.

GENTLEMEN:

Several farmers who have purchased seed from other firms state to me that they are going to plant your corn next year on account of the better yield and quality as compared to the corn they are raising.

Wishing you a large business for the coming year, I remain

Yours very truly,

JOHN CHRISTIAN, Collison, Ill.

*Don't sow cheap seed of any kind. Too high priced*



*A view of some of our Seed ready for shipping, taken last winter*

## BUSINESS GROWING EACH YEAR

HERE IS WHAT HOME FOLKS SAY:

"Save me twenty bushels of Seed Corn and ship May 1."

"I never picked out an ear of Seed Corn. Save me ten bushels."

"Have you plenty of Seed Corn? I want enough to plant 100 acres."

"Be sure to let me know before your Seed Corn is all sold. I'll want about 30 bushels."

Better place your order at once. Our demand is far ahead of last year.

SEVENTY BUSHELS BY MEASURE; MORE IF IT HAD  
BEEN WEIGHED

GENTLEMEN:

The seed was fine, grew good, matured well and is yielding good. The thirty acres we are picking now is making seven bushels to the eighty-rod row. The corn is planted with a three-foot, four-inch planter and that is wagon box measure. If weighed, am satisfied it would make 75 bushels.

Yours truly,

D. C. WYCOFF, Laura, Ill.

*Save by letting us run the risk. Satisfaction or your money back.*





*A view of part of our Reid's Yellow Dent test plot. Taken about the first of June. Notice the rows are numbered.*

Don't you think our Seed Corn is worth double what it costs you?

If you do not, then put out seed corn plots, study them all summer; harvest each row separately; keep the records. Then go out into the fields where you have furnished the seed. Put a sack over your shoulder and walk down row after row and select your seed; hang it; dry it; take it down; prepare it for shipment; sell at only \$5.90 per bushel; bag free.

That's what we do. If you don't believe it, just write and ask any of our neighbors.

Would you rather plant seed selected from the crib at \$3.00 per bushel? Would you rather order from a firm who has yellow corn in one crib and white in another and sells all varieties from the two cribs? Very few do this kind of business, but it is a fact that some do. We do just what this catalog tells you.

GENTLEMEN:

The Reid's Yellow Dent corn I purchased from you last spring grew, matured and yielded entirely satisfactorily. I expect to order again and will probably want some Ninety Day, for I did not save any seed.

Respectfully,

C. G. BATES, Cameron, Ill.

*Buy where you can get the best for the least money.*

## CLOVER SEED

Perhaps there is no seed on the market which can be injured in value more than clover seed, and yet look fine to the average farmer. Sour dock, buckhorn and bracted plantain are three weeds very injurious to Red clover. We have seen offered for sale clover as nice as you ever saw, but it contained buckhorn and it was offered for sale at \$3 to \$6 per bushel under best seed. Every farmer should keep a suspicious eye on cheap clover seed. Please answer this one question, and let it burn into your minds until you never will forget it: What is the use for any of us to use cheap clover seed with dangerous weeds in it; then hire labor at \$3.00 and \$4.00 per day to pull the weeds out of your clover? Is it right that such foul weeds be sold for seed purposes? Quality is our standard in clover seed. We do not furnish our customers with the cheapest clover seed. We list the various clovers we handle herewith.

### RED CLOVER, ALSIKE CLOVER, MAMMOTH CLOVER, ALFALFA and TIMOTHY

It is useless to waste much space describing the above seeds. Most any farmer knows what they are and, if he does not, can easily find out through his County Agent. What we want to impress upon you is to be sure you get good seed. It is almost impossible to get seed which is absolutely free of weeds. Wouldn't it be a wonderful service to all mankind if fields could be inspected which are to be saved for seed?

What you do not want to sow on your farm the other man should not sow.

We will furnish you seed just as long as our supply lasts. Then we will try to locate the best we can find for you.

Seed of quality is bound to be cheap at any price when you consider the facts.

### THINK OF THIS:

Suppose \$200 buys five bushels of quality clover.

Suppose the five bushels sows forty acres.

Suppose the forty acres raises eighty bushels of seed.

Suppose the seed sells for \$25.00 per bushel, or \$2,000.00.

### JUST CROSS THE ROAD OR CRAWL OVER THE FENCE

Suppose a neighbor gives you five bushels of clover which contains sour dock, buckhorn, bracted plantain, Canadian thistle.

Suppose five bushels sows forty acres.

Suppose the forty acres raises eighty bushels of clover, dock, buckhorn, bracted plantain and Canadian thistle.

Suppose the seed sells at \$20 or \$1,600. Not worth it. What have you on your farm? Think of it! With cheap foul clover as a gift you lose money, and you injure generations who live after you.





*A fine crop of Medium Red Clover. This is the sort of a crop you get when you plant good, clean seed. Notice how high the clover is compared to the little fellow's height.*

## MEDIUM RED CLOVER

This is the common medium clover. It is biennial, growing about two to three feet high. This is the kind universally grown all over the country on fertile soil and especially for hay it is superior to everything but alfalfa.

## TIMOTHY

This is a perennial; height, four to five feet. Too well known to need description. We handle the best home grown seed that we can get. Sow about 10 to 15 lbs. per acre.

## MAMMOTH CLOVER

This is a variety of Clover very similar to Medium Red in every respect except size. It is a couple of weeks later and on account of that and its rankness, is not suited to rich land. It is of value on this land. It is said to stand extremes of heat, wet and cold, better than ordinary clover. It generally ranges in price about the same as ordinary clover or from 25c to 50c per bushel higher.

## KENTUCKY BLUE GRASS

This is the best natural pasture grass known. It makes a thick, luxuriant growth that is good from early spring to late fall. This seems to be a natural blue grass country here and the seed grown in this region is the very finest. We also get considerable quantities of the seed direct from the growers in Kentucky. The seed used to be sold always in the chaff, but cleaning machinery has been perfected now so that it is cleaned to solid seed. The standard weight is still 14 pounds to the bushel, but the best seed is heavier, so it is generally sold by the pound.

Kentucky Blue Grass takes the lead. There is a heavy demand for blue grass and we have the best that we could buy. Save money by having all your seed come in one shipment.

See Price List for Prices



*Alsike and Timothy make wonderful pasture like this. Notice the comparison of the one-foot ruler in the picture to the Alsike.*

## ALSIKE CLOVER

This plant is nearly as valuable as the medium for ordinary soils and is far superior on sour and wet soils. Of course it will not grow in water, but it will do better on wet, sour land than any other legume. It is a perennial and is therefore a much more permanent meadow and pasture plant than Medium Red Clover. It may be used alone but probably is best used with timothy either for pasture or for meadow. Stock like it as it is a little finer than Medium Red, growing from one to two feet high. It winters remarkably well.

## MELILOTUS, OR SWEET CLOVER

Sweet Clover is coming to be used more and more by corn belt farmers. It is valuable as a pasture grass, can be used for a hay crop and is a wonderful crop to use as a fertilizer.

As a rule animals need to acquire a taste for it, but soon eat it with a relish. On account of its rank growth it will furnish feed for many stock. Stock rarely bloat on it.

It makes a hay as rich in food content as alfalfa and stock eat it well if cut before the stems get too woody, but is probably not as valuable for hay as for other uses.

As a fertilizer or cover crop it is a wonderful success. On land which contains sufficient lime and is inoculated it will grow from five to seven feet high and if plowed under enriches the soil rapidly, especially in nitrogen.

Varieties: There are three common varieties of Melilotus. *Melilotus Alba*, a white flowered biennial growing four to eight feet in height; *Melilotus Officialis*, a yellow flowered biennial growing three to five feet in height; *Melilotus Indica*, a yellow flowered annual growing about one foot high. Most recommend the white flowered variety *Melilotus* for general use.

However, for pasture and hay some like the yellow flowered biennial, as it is somewhat smaller and so isn't so coarse and woody. The annual is valueless and we do not handle it.

Seeding—Spring seems to be commonly considered the best time to sow Sweet Clover. U. S. Department of Agriculture Bulletin No. 485 states that "Under natural conditions the sweet clover seed germinates for the most part in early Spring, although a few seedling plants may also be observed in the late Fall."

Our seed is cleaned, scarified and is of good quality.

See Price List for Prices.





*W. T. Weir's Alfalfa. Mr. Weir has one of the best fruit farms in the State of Illinois. Notice his fine apple orchard in the back ground.*

## ALFALFA

A ton of well cured alfalfa hay is equal in feeding value to a ton of bran. As a feed for milch cows or young stock it has no superior. It may be pastured, if not pastured too close, and then clipped at the proper time.

Alfalfa and corn is an ideal combination for producing work profitably.

It can be grown on nearly any farm in the corn belt if a few precautions are observed. Choose a piece of ground that is well drained and apply some farm manure and limestone, the amount of the latter depends on the acidity of the soil, but most soils require some. Work the seed bed a number of times to sprout and kill as many weeds as possible. Then when the alfalfa is planted it will get well started ahead of the weeds. The time to plant seems to depend largely on the particular farm and the choice of the farmer.

Alfalfa may be seeded successfully in April in Illinois if the soil is free from foul grass and weed seeds. Sowing with a very thin stand of small grain will help check the weeds if the grain is not thick enough to injure the alfalfa. By sowing in June one has a chance to kill most of the weed seeds and the alfalfa gets a good growth before Fall.

Alfalfa is a very valuable crop for the corn belt farmer who will take the trouble to get the meadow started. Some idea of its value as considered by agricultural authorities may be gained from the following extract:

Ill. Ex. Sta. Bul. 76. "It is not the purpose of this bulletin to discuss the value of alfalfa. It is undoubtedly the most profitable forage crop that grows; it not only produces very profitable yield of most excellent hay and makes splendid pasture, but it is also very effective as a soil restorer, because of its deep rooting system and its power (when supplied with proper bacteria) to secure large quantities of the valuable element nitrogen from the free and inexhaustible supply of the atmosphere."

We have good, clean, viable seed.

Bruington Bros. of Warren County, cut \$1,800 worth of alfalfa from twelve acres this year. Doesn't it pay to grow alfalfa?

Our present supply of alfalfa tests 99.9% pure. Better get your order in. This is Kansas grown seed. It's A No. 1.

See Price List for Prices





*The Rape shown in the picture was sown with the Oats. After harvest, it came up and made lots of pasture, as you can see. The hog in the pasture would weigh about 350 lbs. Taken on the farm of S. N. Mathers, our Vice President.*

## DWARF ESSEX RAPE

If you are a hog or sheep raiser you surely ought to use rape seed in a patch from one to twenty acres. It is simply marvelous how much feed you can get off an acre of rape. There is nothing that will produce more feed per acre. Rape can be sowed with your oats and then used for summer and fall pasture. It can also be sown in the corn at the last cultivation. This plant belongs to the cabbage family, tastes like and resembles cabbage except that it forms no head. Its seed is very inexpensive, costing ordinarily from 45 to 90 cents per acre. It matures quickly and if sown the first of April is ready to pasture by the first of June. It is unsafe for feed after being frozen hard.

Dwarf Essex variety is biennial and does not blossom the first year and winter kills in our climate, so there is no danger of its becoming a weed.

This seed should be sown on well prepared ground, using five to seven pounds per acre, the seed being lightly covered.

Our Rape is Japanese grown and shows 96.6% germination, and 99.5% purity. The best quality we could buy.

### IF WE ALL WENT ON A STRIKE

I wonder what would happen  
If we all went on a strike,  
And everyone refused to touch  
A job he didn't like?

Suppose the cows and chickens quit,  
And wheat refused to grow,  
And corn and clover threw a fit,  
And wind just wouldn't blow?

Mankind has such an easy life  
He thinks he owns the earth—  
If these things happened he would learn  
How little he is worth!  
—*Farm Bureau News, Marion Co., Mo.*

### ASKING TOO MUCH

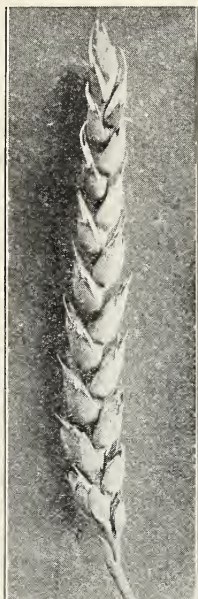
"Look here, young man," said the old lady, with fire in her eye, "I have brought back this thermometer you have sold me. It ain't reliable. One time you look at it, it says one thing and the next time it says another."—*Successful Farming.*

### FAIR ENOUGH

Farmer: "Do you guarantee this clover seed?"

Merchant: "Guarantee? My dear sir, if that seed doesn't come up, you bring it back and I'll refund every cent paid."

—*Successful Farming*



*A Head of Marquis*

## MARQUIS SPRING WHEAT

Marquis Spring Wheat has the lead over all other varieties and is recommended by practically all experiment stations and county agents as being the best for this section. We used more than a car load of Marquis last year. It has a place in our rotations in Illinois.

Bearded Spring Wheat has done exceptionally well for us, and really did better than Marquis, which are grown side by side. Our seed of this Spring Wheat is excellent and you will sure like the quality of this seed.

Place your order for Spring wheat early, as it is very scarce and hard to get. Last year we were able to supply only about one-half of our orders.

## RECLEANING AND TREATING FOR SCAB

Dr. W. L. Burlison, of the University of Illinois, says:

### FANNING WHEAT HELPS OUT

The fanning mill will do much to increase our wheat yields. Many fields of wheat in this state for the past two years have been badly infected with scab. This disease has caused enormous losses. The chief means of control is to fan out all shriveled, shrunken seed. Almost all shriveled grains are infected with scab. A majority of these scabby kernels may be blown away with a properly manipulated fanning mill. Fanning the seed has another advantage. All weed seed can be removed from seed grain, which is no small item when we want wheat instead of weeds.

### IT WILL PAY TO TREAT SEED WHEAT

In addition to fanning, scab can be controlled by treating the seed wheat with formaldehyde in about the same manner as oats are treated for smut. We are prepared to treat your wheat at a small extra cost over our regular prices.

*Every picture in this catalog is original and genuine*

See Price List for Prices



## JAPANESE BUCKWHEAT

A popular early variety of buckwheat. It grows a heavy straw and yields a large amount of grain. The kernels are larger than any other variety.

This crop will enable you to get something off the land which otherwise might lose a season's time. Where crops are killed or weather holds you back, you may plant buckwheat as late as July 10th and yet mature a crop worth many dollars an acre.

Our seed is clean and of good quality.

## PUMPKINS

### BIG TOM

Vines of strong, vigorous growth, and wonderfully prolific. Fruits will average fifteen or twenty inches in diameter, round or oval in form. Reddish orange color, lightly ribbed with rich orange colored flesh. Good for either cooking or feeding, though not as good for household use as our other varieties.

### LARGE CHEESE

Large, round flattened fruits of creamy buff color, sizes up to two feet in diameter, an excellent keeper. Has thick flesh of good quality, a good cooking pumpkin and yields well enough to plant for feeding.

### SMALL SUGAR

A small sized, deep orange colored sweet pumpkin. Fruit about ten inches in diameter, slightly flattened and slightly ribbed. They should be more widely known, as they are a very fine pie pumpkin.

Were you ever sorry that you planted pumpkins when fall came?

Good, clean seed.

## SOY BEANS

This is a valuable crop for pasture, as a concentrate or for silage. Besides it is very valuable for soil improvement.

Soy Beans are becoming more and more popular each year until now nearly every county agent recommends their use with corn for hogging down, also to plant with corn for silage. For these uses they may be sown by means of a soy bean attachment in the hill or even sometimes sown broadcast at the last cultivation, although this is not quite so certain to give results. It is the opinion of many county agents that they do not injure the corn at all. Some even claim a benefit.

Also they may be sown alone either in rows or broadcast, then pastured, used for hay or threshed. Stock eat the hay well, when allowed to mature and then threshed, or when pastured they take the place of the expensive protein feeds.

We have only standard varieties and can furnish tested seed of them. This is important, as their vitality is very easily injured.





*A Mongol Soy Bean  
Note its yield of Beans*

### MONGOL

This variety is rather a late bean, the plants are very prolific and yield a large quantity of medium sized, greenish colored beans. They do not shell off the plant easily and waste, as some varieties do. The advantage of using this variety with corn is that they mature with the corn and do not shell out and waste, but the pods retain the beans until eaten by the stock. An excellent variety to plant where you expect to hog down corn.

### SABLE SOY BEANS

This variety is a remarkably good dual purpose bean. Being very suitable for either grain purposes or for forage purposes. The plants stand very erect and very seldom lodge. It yields heavily. Beans smaller than average size and of a glossy black color. It matures in about one hundred and twenty days.

### A. K. SOY BEANS

These beans have been worked up from a sample sent the University of Illinois by people interested in Soy Beans. Mr. R. W. Stark, of the Crop Production Division, has the following to say regarding them:

"In the five years during which time we have a record of these beans in competition with other varieties, they have ranked fourth in seed production and ninth in hay production in a class of thirteen varieties. The average yield during that period was nineteen bushels per acre which is a very fair average yield. Other varieties are doubtless better suited for the production of hay and therefore better suited for silage than the A. K.

"The A. K. matures a little later than the Medium Yellow. Approximately 110 to 120 days are required for their maturity. Since they are quite productive of seed and mature about the time corn would be in condition for hogging down, they would doubtless prove satisfactory for this purpose."

Better get your order in; Soys are scarce. In fact, better place your entire order and have it shipped when you wish.

We returned two lots of Soy Beans last year which were not good enough for our customers. We supply you with the same seed we would use ourselves.

See Price List for Prices



## IOWA 103 OATS

These oats are almost too well known to need description. They were originated by the Iowa Experiment Station and are an early, short-strawed variety, but yield well indeed. These oats should be used by almost every farmer who has rich, heavy soil, as they do well on such land without lodging.

## SUDAN GRASS

Sudan Grass is a new fodder or hay plant which promises to fill a considerable place for such purposes. It is an annual plant somewhat similar to cane or kaffir, but more slender and finer stemmed; easier to cure; harder, quicker to mature and yields more hay.

It is said to grow well on even thin soil and does pretty well even in a dry season. An acre will feed two horses and a cow or the equivalent.

It stools very much and may have a hundred stems from a single seed. It keeps sprouting up and can be cut once a month. The hay stays green, even after the seed ripens. Drilling in rows about the width of corn is to be preferred to broadcasting, as it does not take so much seed and is said to yield about as much.

On our other seeds we allow you fifteen days to test the seed any way you wish as regards purity, germination, etc. After that time our responsibility ceases. We do everything we can to furnish seed of high quality and true to name, but feel that this allows ample time for testing.

### SUCCESS

*By Berton Braley*

It's doing your job the best you can  
And being just to your fellow men;  
It's making money, but holding friends  
And staying true to your aims and ends;  
It's figuring how and learning why,  
And looking forward and thinking high,  
And dreaming a little and doing much,  
It's keeping always in closest touch  
With what is finest in word and deed;  
It's being thorough and making speed;  
It's daring blithely the field of chance  
While making labor a brave romance;  
It's going onward despite defeat  
And fighting staunchly, but keeping  
sweet;  
It's being clean and it's playing fair;  
It's laughing lightly at Dame Despair;  
It's looking up at the stars above,  
And drinking deeply of life and love;  
It's struggling on with the will to win,  
But taking loss with a cheerful grin;  
It's sharing sorrow, and work, and mirth,  
And making better this good old earth;  
It's serving, striving through strain and  
stress,  
It's doing your noblest—that is Success.

### POP-CORN

Eats mighty good, doesn't it, with  
plenty of good butter on it or, better  
still, made into "Cracker Jack?"  
Why don't you grow some or get  
your boy interested?

We have a small quantity of extra  
selected Dwarf Rice Seed which we  
purchased from a local grower who  
has been winning ribbons on it for  
some time.

This is positively the very finest  
pop corn we have ever seen. Don't  
you want to order a pound to come  
along with your order for other  
seeds?

One pound, Postpaid, 50c.



## WHAT TWENTY-FOUR OF OUR NEIGHBORS SAY

"Have the seeds you bought from us been satisfactory?"

Twenty-four answered "Yes."

"Do you know that our seeds are handled as we claim in our catalog?"

Nineteen answered "Yes." The other five as follows: "I think so." "I have found it so in four years' using your seeds." "I think so." "As far as I have observed, they are."

"Do we have the reputation in our neighborhood of standing behind our seeds?"

Twenty answered "Yes." The other four as follows: "You do." "I have heard no adverse criticism in that respect." "Yes, emphatically." "I certainly do."

"Have you gotten any foul weeds on your farm by using our grass seeds?"

Eighteen answered "No." Four as follows: "No, indeed." "Not that I know of." "None whatever." "None that I know of." One answered "Yes." He got mustard in Rape Seed. When we found out that the Rape Seed we were selling contained mustard we did the very best we could; quit selling, fired all the Rape we had on hands back to the party from whom we had purchased it, and refunded all the money we had received for this seed or exchanged it for good quality seed. Two other seed firms, who bear a good reputation, got the same Rape Seed, so they told us. Do you suppose we will get fooled again this year? The other man got a few sour dock seed in his clover. Read his letter below:

"I can truthfully say that all seed which I have bought from you has been satisfactory and, as far as I know, your seeds are handled as you claim in your catalog, and I have inquired into this several times. You bear the reputation of standing behind your seeds. I never got any foul weeds from you but once and that time I got sour dock in clover seed. I have known you and members of your firm for fifteen years and I believe you are honest and sincere in your business. I put in forty acres of Kanred Wheat which is up and looking fine. Yours respectfully,

JOHN LYNCH, JR.

The last question asked was: "Do you think we are honest and sincere in our business?"

Sixteen answered "Yes," and the other nine as follows: "I sure do." "Yes, I do." "I do." "I have every reason to believe you are." "Yes, sir, I do." "Yes, I know you are." "If there is anything that stands out more prominently than another, it is the fact of your honesty and sincerity."

The following men answered the above questions. You may write them if you wish:

Gus Swanson, Media, Illinois  
J. B. Heaps, Media, Illinois  
Cornel Schenck, Media, Illinois  
Fred Ross, Media, Illinois  
Robt. Clark, Media, Illinois  
E. S. Mathers, Media, Illinois  
Dave Barry, Media, Illinois  
Wm. Musser, Media, Illinois  
A. E. Justice, Media, Illinois  
John Keane, Media, Illinois  
John Christian, Collinson, Illinois  
Clarence Gibb, Biggsville, Illinois

John Lynch, Jr., Monmouth, Illinois  
C. E. Russell, Monmouth, Illinois  
Turnquist Bros., Monmouth, Illinois  
Robt. Gray, Smithshire, Illinois  
Grant Strong, Smithshire, Illinois  
George Hickman Smithshire, Illinois  
J. Y. Gearhardt, Raritan, Illinois  
C. G. Richey, Stronghurst, Illinois  
C. R. A. Marshall, Stronghurst, Illinois  
Delbert Dixon, Stronghurst, Illinois  
Charles Heisler, Stronghurst, Illinois  
Wm. Hartquist, Stronghurst, Illinois

The above men are not five per cent of the farmers who drive to our Seed House for their seeds.

*Save by making only one trip to town.*





*Notice the ear six feet high on one stalk and the ear touching the ground on the other. This corn originally started from the same seed. This shows plainly what is possible by breeding. We had some from plots of Dr. L. H. Smith and also Harvey Sconce.*

We have testimonials on file in our office from the following bankers:

J. C. Brooks, Media State Bank.  
W. C. Tubbs, National Bank of Monmouth.  
R. L. Wray, Monmouth Trust & Savings Bank.  
C. R. Kaiser, State Bank of Stronghurst.  
B. G. Widney, National Bank of Stronghurst.  
J. Y. Whiteman, First National Bank of Biggsville.  
Jas. K. Barry, Raritan Union Bank.  
Jas. Milligen, Smithshire Union Bank.

## OUR FAREWELL WORD TO YOU

Space will not permit us to more than touch upon the details of our business. Our future is the brightest it has ever been. If we have only driven home to every farmer who gets this catalog the two words: "QUALITY FIRST," then it is worth its weight in gold. As you close this little book, think of "Quality" as a step forward and of "Inferiority" as a step backward. Then you have clinched in your mind the importance of "QUALITY SEEDS."

Yours for service,

E. G. LEWIS SEED COMPANY

### SIXTY-EIGHT BUSHELS OVER THE SCALES

DEAR SIR:

Received your letter of November 17. I finished husking my corn November 21, and it all went over the scales, making an average of 68 bushels and 10 pounds per acre, which is a high average for this locality. This corn was planted May 10 and 11 and matured as early as any.

You asked about satisfaction. I am one of your "Best Satisfied."  
Best wishes for success.

Yours truly,

GEO. H. HOENER, Sutter, Ill.

*If our seeds please you, tell others.*

# ORDER SHEET

Bags and Crates Free with Seed Corn.

Bags weighed in with all other Seeds.

Enclosed please find.....for \$.....

MY NAME IS.....

POST OFFICE..... STATE.....

FREIGHT STATION .....

SEND BY FREIGHT ☐ EXPRESS ☐

WHEN DO YOU WISH SEED SHIPPED?.....

BUS.	VARIETY	In Ear Add 50c. per bu.	
	<b>SACK PICKED HUNG SEED CORN</b>		
	1919 Crop		
—	Lewis' Reid's Yellow Dent, shelled and graded.....@	\$5.90	
—	Lewis' Johnson County White, shelled and graded.....@	5.90	
—	Lewis' Iowa Silvermine, graded.....@	5.90	
	<b>EARLY VARIETIES</b>		
—	Lewis' Ninety Day Yellow, graded.....@	5.90	
—	Lewis' Red Dent, graded.....@	5.90	
—	Lewis' Early White, graded.....@	5.90	
	<b>SACK PICKED HUNG SEED CORN</b>		
	1918 Crop		
—	Lewis' Reid's Yellow Dent, graded.....@	4.90	
—	Lewis' Johnson County White, graded.....@	4.90	
—	Lewis' Iowa Silvermine, graded.....@	4.90	
	<b>EARLY VARIETIES</b>		
—	Lewis' Ninety Day, graded.....@	4.90	
—	Lewis' Red Dent, graded.....@	4.90	
—	Lewis' Early White, graded.....@	4.90	
—	Lewis' Reid's Yellow Dent, bin stored, graded.....@	\$4.40	
—	Lewis' Johnson County White, bin stored, graded.....@	4.40	
—	Lewis' Ninety Day Yellow, bin stored, graded.....@	4.40	

(OVER)

## ORDER SHEET

BUS.	VARIETY		
	Clover—Medium Red, double recleaned (Quality Brand)....		
	Clover—Medium Red, double recleaned (Purple Brand).....		
	Clover—Mammoth, double recleaned.....		
	Clover—Alsike, double recleaned (Quality Brand).....		
	Clover—Alsike, double recleaned (Purple Brand).....		
	Alfalfa—Kansas-Nebraska, recleaned (Quality Brand).....		
	Alfalfa—Kansas-Nebraska, recleaned (Purple Brand).....		
	Sweet Clover—White Blossom, recleaned.....		
	Timothy, double recleaned (Quality Brand).....		
	Kentucky Blue Grass (Quality Brand).....		
	Soy Beans, A. K., recleaned.....		
	Soy Beans—Mongol, recleaned .....		
	Soy Beans—Medium Yellow, recleaned.....		
	Soy Beans—Sable (black), recleaned.....		
	Oats—Iowa 103, recleaned.....		
	Dwarf Essex Rape, recleaned.....		
	Acre Size Nitrogen Inoculating Bacteria.....		
	.....		
	.....		
	.....		
	.....		

**Save by making every effort count.**

**Honest Labor is a credit to any man.**

**Save by having all seeds sent in one shipment**

When cash accompanies order, deduct as follows:

On order of \$100 deduct 1%

On order of \$200 deduct 2%

On order of \$300 deduct 3%

On order of \$400 deduct 4%

On order of \$500 or over deduct 5%

You must be satisfied or your money back, and we will pay the freight both ways.  
You be the judge.

**E. G. LEWIS SEED COMPANY**  
**MEDIA, ILLINOIS**



## OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee our seed corn to be as free as possible from foreign pollen. Seed might get mixed to a certain extent by wind or birds carrying pollen. We furnish you the seed just as this catalog tells you. Test it anyway you please for 15 days and if it does not suit you in every way, return it at once and we will refund your money. We cannot, and will not, guarantee seed longer than 15 days. Will in no way be responsible for crop failures, destruction from insects, etc. We have no power to rule the weather, or cannot plant, prepare and care for your corn, so after you have had the seed in your hands fifteen days our responsibility ceases so far as we are concerned. You can read how others are pleased, and if you want more recommendations we can give them.

## GROWS BUMPER CROPS!

of Alfalfa,  
Clovers, Peas,  
Beans, Other  
Legumes



It will insure  
a catch, yield  
big crops

### "Nitragin" Increases Yield, Makes Fertile Soil



The simplest, safest and surest system of soil inoculation for all legumes. The lack of necessary bacteria in the soil is often the cause of failure to secure a "catch" of alfalfa, clover or other legumes. "Nitragin" is insurance.

Use a reliable culture. NITRAGIN has been tried out and has made good. It contains strong, active bacteria—which produce nodules and take nitrogen from the air.

NITRAGIN is sold in the FINELY-GRANULAR MEDIUM and VENTILATED CAN so that the bacteria are good for a long time. INOCULATED legumes give better food and better soil. INOCULATION with NITRAGIN always pays.

#### PRICES

Garden NITRAGIN (for peas, beans, sweet peas only;	
all in one can, one size only; wght. 4oz)	\$ .30
½ acre size (any culture, wght. 4 oz)	.50
1 acre size (any culture, wght. 8 oz)	1.00
2 acre size (any culture, wght. 1 lb)	1.80
5 acre size (any culture, wght. 2½ lb)	4.00
10 acre size (any culture, wght. 5 lb)	7.50

Postage or Express is extra

Please state for crop it is to be used,  
as there are different kinds of NITRAGIN  
**USE GARDEN NITRAGIN FOR YOUR GARDEN PEAS AND BEANS**

Don't you  
t h i n k  
QUALITY  
S E E D S  
are the  
CHEAPEST

■ ? ■